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*The History of the Louisiana Purchase.* By JAMES K. HOSMER.  
(New York: D. Appleton and Co. 1902. Pp. xv, 230.)

THIS story of our first expansion, attractively bound and neatly printed, is divided into eleven chapters. The first gives a running history of the country up to the time of its transfer to Spain in 1762. The second chapter deals with Louisiana under Spain, and the next with the work of Toussaint in San Domingo, so important in thwarting Napoleon's colonial designs, the negotiations of Napoleon with Spain, and the first movement of Jefferson toward purchase. Chapters IV.-VI. are devoted to further events in America and Europe which spurred the Americans to buy and Napoleon to sell the bone of contention. Two of these chapters deal with the quarrel of Napoleon with his two brothers, Joseph and Lucien, because of their opposition to the sale, the details of which, largely based on Lucien's memoirs, are given at some length, including the famous bath-room scene. The two next chapters take up Livingston and Monroe at Paris and the conclusion of the treaty of purchase. Herein, together with the two preceding chapters, the author makes much of his belief, expressed in the preface, that "the transaction was a piece of Napoleonic statesmanship, Jefferson and his negotiators playing only a secondary part." Yet Dr. Hosmer takes care to point out that Livingston foresaw that the relinquishment of the whole territory was inevitable. Chapter IX. treats of the constitutional questions involved in the purchase as discussed in Congress, and the violent opposition of the Federalists. The next chapter gives a dramatic account of the formal transfer of sovereignty at New Orleans, and the last recites the salient points in the history of the Louisiana territory to the present day. Three appendices contain Livingston's memorial of February 1, 1803, giving reasons why France should sell Louisiana, Napoleon's order for the sale, and the treaties of session and payment.

The book under review is timely in a twofold way, appearing when we are about to celebrate the centenary of our first expansion and when the question of expansion itself still lingers in the public mind. Though written for "youths on the verge of maturity and men and women too busy for a deep study of the matter," the book is both readable and scholarly. While acknowledging his indebtedness to his predecessors, the author claims to have made a new presentation of the subject. He has brought into the compass of about forty thousand words a most interesting story, but, in spite of the use of original sources, largely French, and although he gives "at length some important secret history not heretofore fully set forth in English," his addition to our stock of knowledge on the subject is rather small, and it must be said that some of the additions are questionable. One who has read the correspondence of our various representatives at Madrid will be surprised to learn that "the Spanish attitude to the United States was, in fact, most friendly, though little appreciated then or since" (p. 35). If Dr. Hosmer has discovered that the "favorable disposition of the King," so often held out to our min-

isters but never put into deeds, was real, it is due to history that the proof be forthcoming. If "it was not easy for Madison to feel that this free navigation of the Mississippi was so very important" (p. 63), why did he express his amazement to Monroe that the thought of surrendering it should even be entertained,<sup>1</sup> or why did he return to Congress (1786) mainly to defeat Jay's proposed treaty surrendering this right?<sup>2</sup> The statement that "the Spanish officials had withdrawn with all the stately circumstance that had surrounded them," probably refers only to their withdrawal from office, but is likely to mislead, since they lingered in Louisiana and fomented much trouble until finally ordered away. The author's treatment of Jefferson is similar to that of Mr. Henry Adams, whom he has read with care, though a little more favorable.

DAVID Y. THOMAS.

*The Sectional Struggle.* An Account of the Troubles Between the North and the South, from the Earliest Times to the Close of the Civil War. First Period Ending with the Compromise of 1833. Part concerning the Early Tariffs and Nullification. By CICERO W. HARRIS. (Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Co. 1902. Pp. 343.)

THE author of this work thinks that "the time has come when the more thoughtful people of both sections are ready to receive a full-length view of the long political and constitutional struggle between the North and the South." He has accordingly "devoted his spare time" to constructing such a work "from original sources . . . with infinite . . . care as to data and great catholicity in the handling of vexed questions." As announced in the title, the plan covers the entire field of sectionalism, but the author, for reasons not apparent, has seen fit to publish a part only, which has a decidedly fragmentary character. As it stands it is not a monograph dealing with the early tariff controversy, but a number of chapters from a larger work, whose unity is to be found only in the fact that they deal with struggles involving sectional feeling.

The scope of the work is narrow, being confined practically to tariff discussion in Congress. Four-fifths of the book is taken up with abstracts of debates, the rest being devoted to extremely brief statements of political events. Nothing is said about the economic conditions which caused the tariff controversy except in so far as these are referred to in southern speeches, and while the contents of every bill and amendment are given, there is nothing done by the author to explain the rates proposed or adopted. Even when votes are recorded no attempt is made to analyze them, nor is it shown in most cases to what extent sectionalism influenced the result. Political parties are seldom mentioned. In its very limited range the work seems to have been carefully and systematically carried out, being based apparently upon the *Annals of Congress* and Niles's *Register*. It is perhaps most useful in the chapters where

<sup>1</sup> June 26, 1786.

<sup>2</sup> Gay's *Madison*, 81 ff.